

REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action & Formalities

Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicants are amending claims 1, 11, and 14, and adding new claims 16-21. No new matter is added.

Claim to Foreign Priority

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document was received.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants also thank the Examiner for initialing the references listed on forms PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on April 24, 2006 and November 3, 2006.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the V-groove in line 2 of claim 14 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Applicants are amending claim 14 to address the Examiner's objection.

Claim Rejections - § 112

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants are amending claim 11 to address the Examiner's objection.

Art Rejections

1. Claims 1-4, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Aylesworth et al. (US 2003/0102241, "Aylesworth").
2. Claims 1, 5-9, 11-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ichikawa et al. (US 5,474,212, "Ichikawa").
3. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ichikawa et al. (US 5,474,212, "Ichikawa").

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. Claims 1-4, 8 and 10 In View Of Aylesworth et al. (US 2003/0102241, "Aylesworth").

In rejecting claims 1-4, 8 and 10 in view of Aylesworth et al. (US 2003/0102241, "Aylesworth"), the grounds of rejection state:

In Reference to Claim 1

A fluid dispenser assembly (all of Fig. 1) comprising: a fluid dispenser (10); and a pack (14) for co-operating with the dispenser in such a manner as to fasten the pack to the dispenser (Fig. 1), the pack including a fastener zone (31), and the dispenser including reception means (22) for receiving the fastener zone, the assembly being characterized in that the reception means comprise at least one set of two opposite longitudinal grooves (20) for receiving the fastener zone of the pack (Fig. 4, two grooves on opposite sides of dispenser container 10).

Office Action at page 3.

Applicants respectfully disagree. Aylesworth does not disclose at least "one set of two opposite longitudinal grooves." Rather, Aylesworth discloses a single groove that is in alignment. (See Aylesworth, ¶ 0025, reference to a singular "groove 20," see also FIGS. 3, 5, and

6 showing a single groove in cross-section.) Even if one were to consider Aylesworth as disclosing two grooves, however, these two grooves are not opposite each other because they are arranged in alignment with each other. (See Aylesworth, FIGS. 4-5.)

To emphasize this difference, Applicant is adding the language that “the at least one set of two opposite longitudinal grooves extend away from each other and face in opposite directions.” Again, even if Aylesworth were to be considered as disclosing two grooves, these grooves are aligned with each other and do not face in opposite directions. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Aylesworth does not anticipate independent claim 1.

Applicants also submit that claims 2-4, 8 and 10 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

2. *Claims 1, 5-9, 11-13 and 15 In View Of Ichikawa et al. (US 5,474,212, “Ichikawa”).*

In rejecting claims 1, 5-9, 11-13 and 15 in view of Ichikawa et al. (US 5,474,212), the grounds of rejection state:

Ichikawa teaches:

In Reference to Claim 1

A fluid dispenser assembly (1) comprising: a fluid dispenser (5, 6 and 9); and a pack (11) for co-operating with the dispenser in such a manner as to fasten the pack to the dispenser (Fig. 1), the pack including a fastener zone (10), and the dispenser including reception means (5) for receiving the fastener zone, the assembly being characterized in that the reception means comprise at least one set of two opposite longitudinal grooves for receiving the fastener zone of the pack (Fig. 2).

Office Action at pages 5-7.

Ichikawa does not disclose at least, “wherein the at least one set of two opposite longitudinal grooves extend in a direction that is substantially parallel with a direction of actuation of the fluid dispenser.” Rather Ichikawa discloses shelves 5a-5c that extend in a direction transverse to the direction of actuation of the pump mechanism. As such, Applicants submit that Ichikawa does not disclose all of the features of independent claim 1.

Applicants further submit that claims 5-9, 11-13 and 15 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. Claim 14 Over Ichikawa et al. (US 5,474,212, “Ichikawa”).

Applicant submits that claim 14 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1.

New Claims

For additional claim coverage merited by the scope of the invention, Applicants are adding new claims 16-21.

Regarding independent claim 16, the cited prior art does not disclose at least “a fluid dispenser comprising a plurality of longitudinal grooves, wherein the plurality of longitudinal grooves face in different directions and wherein the plurality of longitudinal grooves extend in a direction substantially parallel to a direction of actuation of the fluid dispenser.”

Claims 17-21 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 16. Furthermore, the cited prior art does not disclose the recited features of claims 17-21.

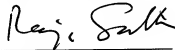
Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 4, 2009